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PATENT DEPARTMENT  
MACROVISION CORPORATION  
2830 DE LA CRUZ BLVD.  
SANTA CLARA, CA 95050

EXAMINER
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MOORTHY, ARAVIND K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2131

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/388,296

Applicant(s)

QUAN ET AL.

Examiner

Aravind K Moorthy

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9/1/99.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

- 1. Claims 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 15, 25 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.**

The term "about" in claim 3 is a relative term that renders the claim indefinite. The term "about" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. The examiner asserts that it is not clear when the delay occurs. The applicant stating that the delay is about 1 to about 2.5 microseconds is not definite. For the sake of examining, the examiner assumes that the delay is between 1.0 and 2.5 microseconds and the separation is 1.5 or more microseconds.

The term "about" in claim 5 is a relative term that renders the claim indefinite. The term "about" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. The applicant stating that the advancement is about 1 to about 2.5 microseconds and that the position separation is about 1.5 or more microseconds is not definite. For the sake of examining, the examiner assumes that the advancement is between 1 to 2.5 microseconds and that the position separation is 1.5 or more microseconds.

The term "about" in claim 6 is a relative term that renders the claim indefinite. The term "about" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. The applicant stating that the AGC pulses are delayed by about 0.5 to about 1.5 microseconds is not definite to when the pulses are delayed. The applicant stating that the trailing edge advances about 0.5 to 1.5 microseconds is not definite to how much the trailing edge is advanced. For the sake of examining, the examiner assumes that AGC pulses are delayed between 0.5 to 1.5 microseconds relative to respective sync/pseudo sync pulses and that the trailing edge is advanced between 0.5 to 1.5 microseconds relative to the delayed respective AGC pulses.

The term "about" in claim 8 is a relative term that renders the claim indefinite. The term "about" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. The applicant stating, "about blanking level" is not clear to the examiner as to when the separation takes place. For the sake of examining, the examiner assumes that the separation takes place in the region of the blanking level.

The term "almost" in claim 9 is a relative term that renders the claim indefinite. The term "almost" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. The applicant stating, "almost defeats the copy protection signals" does not make clear to the examiner if the separation does defeat the copy protection

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signals. For the sake of examining, the examiner assumes that the further position separation defeats the copy protection signals.

The term "about" in claim 15 is a relative term that renders the claim indefinite. The term "about" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. The applicant stating, "to about 180 degrees" is not clear to the examiner as to how much phase shifting takes place. For the sake of examining, the examiner assumes that the phase shift is 180 degrees.

The term "about" in claim 25 is a relative term that renders the claim indefinite. The term "about" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. The applicant stating, "separation to position separation of about 1.5 to about 5.0 microseconds" is not clear to the examiner to how long the separation takes place. For the sake of examining, the examiner assumes that position separation is between 1.5 and 5.0 microseconds.

The term "about" in claim 30 is a relative term that renders the claim indefinite. The term "about" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. The applicant stating, "to about 50 percent" is not clear to the examiner to how much the pulse width is narrowed. For the sake of examining, the examiner assumes that the pulse width is narrowed from 100 percent to 50 percent.

#### *Claim Objections*

**2. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: misspelling.**

The examiner asserts that the word "therebetween" in the claim does not exist. The examiner suggests removing the word from the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

**3. Claim 12 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.**

As to claim 12, Sperber does not teach removing all or sufficient portions of the copy protection signals of sync/pseudo sync and AGC pulses, inserting new sync/pseudo sync pulses in advance of the position of the original sync/pseudo sync pulses that are removed, and inserting new AGC pulses in delayed relation to the position of the original AGC pulses. Sperber does not teach providing the further position separation sufficient to reduce the effects of the copy protection signals.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an

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international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

**4. Claims 1-3, 7-9, 13-23 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sperber U.S. Patent No. 5,661,801.**

As to claim 1, Sperber discloses providing the AGC pulses with the leading edge thereof having the small position separation from the trailing edge of respective sync/pseudo sync pulses [column 7, lines 5-27]. Sperber discloses that the small position separation maintains the copy protection effect [column 7, lines 51-59]. Sperber discloses shifting the relative position of either the leading edge of the AGC pulses or the trailing edge of the respective sync/pseudo sync pulses with respect to each other to provide a further position separation sufficient to reduce the effects of the copy protection signals in the VCR and/or TV set and allow the recording of a viewable copy [column 5 line 20 to column 6 line 6].

As to claim 2, Sperber discloses delaying the leading edge of the AGC pulses relative to the trailing edge of the respective sync/pseudo sync pulses by a time period commensurate with the further position separation [column 8 line 53 to column 6 line 9].

As to claim 3, Sperber suggests that the delay is 1.0 and 2.5 microseconds depending upon the amount of the small position separation, and provides further position separation of 1.5 or more microseconds [column 8 line 53 to column 6 line 9].

As to claim 7, Sperber suggests narrowing the duration of the sync/pseudo sync pulses and/or the AGC pulses in combination with the shifting of the relative positions of the sync/pseudo sync and AGC pulses [column 8, lines 30-52].

As to claim 8, Sperber suggest that the video level of the further position separation is at a video level in the region of blanking level [column 3, lines 7-21].

As to claim 9, Sperber discloses that delaying the AGC pulse relative to the sync/pseudo sync pulse to provide the further position separation defeats the copy protection signals. Sperber discloses narrowing the AGC pulse an amount sufficient to reduce the effects of the copy protection signals [column 3, lines 47-58].

As to claim 13, Sperber discloses providing the AGC pulses with the small position separation with respect to respective normal sync pulses, as discussed above. Sperber discloses position modulating the AGC pulses while maintaining the further position separation between the AGC and normal sync pulses which reduces the effects of the copy protection signals, as discussed above.

As to claim 14, Sperber suggests reversing the order of at least one of the sync/pseudo sync pulses and respective AGC pulses while maintaining the further position separation [column 4, lines 37-46].

As to claim 15, Sperber suggests phase shifting at least portions of the sync/pseudo sync and AGC pulses to 180 degrees [column 3, lines 26-46].

As to claim 16, Sperber discloses input means for supplying the copy protected video signal with the AGC pulses and the respective sync/pseudo sync pulses with the given small position separation which maintains the copy protection effect [column 3, lines 26-46]. Sperber discloses a timing circuitry for providing timing signals indicative of one or more video lines containing sync/pseudo sync and AGC pulses [figure 4 and accompanying description]. Sperber discloses a circuit means responsive to the timing circuitry for shifting the relative edges and/or



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positions of the AGC pulses and of the sync/pseudo sync pulses with respect to each other so as to provide a further position separation there between which is of sufficient separation to reduce or defeat the effects of the copy protection signals in the VCR and/or TV set and allow the recording of a viewable copy of the video signal [figure 5 and accompanying description].

As to claim 17, Sperber discloses a timing circuitry that includes sync separating means for providing selected sync signals [figure 4 and accompanying description]. Sperber discloses a timing circuit responsive to the sync separating means for providing the timing signals [figure 5 and accompanying description]. Sperber discloses that the circuit means include delay means for delaying the copy protected video signal [figure 4 and accompanying description]. Sperber discloses a clipper circuit responsive to the delay means for supplying delayed AGC pulses [figure 4 and accompanying description]. Sperber discloses an apparatus including switching means for inserting the delayed AGC pulses into the copy protected video signal in response to the timing signals [figure 5 and accompanying description].

As to claim 18, Sperber discloses that the timing circuitry includes sync separating means for providing selected sync signals [figure 4 and accompanying description]. Sperber discloses a timing circuit responsive to the sync separating means for providing the timing signals [figure 5 and accompanying description]. Sperber discloses that the circuit means include multivibrator means responsive to the sync separating means for providing a defeat signal which causes the further position separation [column 8, lines 11-29]. Sperber discloses logic means responsive to the timing circuit and multivibrator means for providing a control signal indicative of the presence of the copy protection signals and of the further position separation [column 8, lines 11-29]. Sperber suggests switching means receiving the copy protected video signal for inserting

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the defeat signal into the video signal in response to the control signal, to modify the widths of the sync/pseudo sync pulses and AGC pulses [column 8, lines 11-29].

As to claim 19, Sperber discloses a chroma filter receiving the copy protected video signal for reinserting color burst into the unprotected video signal via the switching means in response to the control signal, during the modifying of the pulses' widths [column 5 line 20 to column 6 line 6].

As to claim 20, Sperber discloses that the timing circuitry includes control means for supplying write and read signals [figure 5 and accompanying description]. Sperber discloses that the circuit means include memory means receiving the copy protected video signal in response to the write signal, wherein the stored copy protected video signal is recovered from the memory means in reverse order in response to the read signal to provide reversed pulse pairs having the small position separation between the sync/pseudo sync and AGC pulses which reduces the effect of the copy protection signals [figure 5 and accompanying description].

As to claim 21, Sperber discloses that the copy protected video signal reversing process is implemented for all or selected portions of the sync/pseudo sync and/or AGC pulses [column 9, lines 10-48].

As to claim 22, Sperber discloses that the timing circuitry includes a source of control voltage [figure 4 and accompanying description]. Sperber discloses that the circuit means includes inverting amplifier/phase shifter means receiving the copy protected video signal for providing inverted/phase shifted sync/pseudo sync and AGC signals [figure 5 and accompanying description]. Sperber discloses dissolve amplifier means responsive to the control voltage for

replacing the original sync/pseudo sync and AGC pulses with the inverted/phase shifted sync/pseudo sync and AGC pulses [figure 5 and accompanying description].

As to claim 23, Sperber discloses a second control voltage [figure 5 and accompanying description]. Sperber discloses a level shifter/attenuator means receiving the output of the dissolve amplifier means and responsive to the second control voltage for level shifting/attenuating the inverted/phase shifted sync/pseudo sync and AGC pulses [figure 5 and accompanying description].

As to claim 36, Sperber discloses providing the AGC pulses with the leading edges thereof coincident with, or separated by less than 1.0 microsecond from, the trailing edges of respective sync/pseudo sync pulses to provide the copy protection signals [column 5 line 20 to column 6 line 6]. Sperber suggests position separating relative to time the AGC pulses and/or the respective sync/pseudo sync pulses an amount of 1.5 or more microseconds sufficient to defeat the copy protection effect of the copy protection signals [column 5 line 20 to column 6 line 6].

**5. Claims 24-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Oguro U.S. Patent No. 5,907,655.**

As to claim 24, Oguro discloses providing the AGC pulses with the leading edges thereof generally coincident with the trailing edges of respective sync/pseudo sync pulses thereby having essentially small to zero position separation consistent with maintaining copy protection [column 7, lines 45-64]. Oguro suggests dynamically increasing over time the position separation between the sync/pseudo sync pulses and the respective AGC pulses so as to reduce or defeat the effects of the copy protection signals [column 7, lines 31-39]. Oguro suggests dynamically

decreasing over time the position separation between the sync/pseudo sync pulses and the respective AGC pulses to return to the essentially small to zero position separation that maintains copy protection [column 10, lines 20-28].

As to claim 25, Oguro suggests dynamically varying the position separation between at least one sync/pseudo sync and at least one respective AGC pulse from the essentially small to zero position separation to a position separation of 1.5 to 5.0 microseconds [figure 15 and accompanying description].

As to claim 26, Oguro discloses dynamically varying the position separation by dynamically varying the advancement of the trailing edge of the sync/pseudo sync pulses with respect to the respective AGC pulses [figure 27 and accompanying description].

As to claim 27, Oguro discloses dynamically varying the position separation by dynamically varying the delay of the leading edge of the AGC pulses with respect to the respective sync/pseudo sync pulses [column 11, lines 47-65].

As to claim 28, Oguro discloses dynamically varying the position separation by dynamically varying the advancement of the sync/pseudo sync pulses while dynamically varying oppositely the delay of the AGC pulses [figure 17 and accompanying description].

As to claim 29, Oguro discloses dynamically varying the position separation by dynamically varying the pulse width of the AGC pulses and/or of the sync/pseudo sync pulses [figure 17 and accompanying description].

As to claim 30, Oguro suggests dynamically narrowing the pulse width of the AGC pulses and/or the sync/pseudo sync pulses from 100 percent to 50 percent and back to 100 percent [column 10, lines 20-28].

As to claim 31, Oguro discloses timing circuitry for providing timing signals indicative of video lines that are to contain the copy protection signals, and of the location in the video lines of selected copy protection signals [figure 29 and accompanying description]. Oguro discloses circuit means responsive to the timing circuitry for generating modulated inverted pseudo sync pulses, and for generating AGC pulses that vary in width and position delay in response to the modulated inverted pseudo sync pulses [figure 29 and accompanying description]. Oguro discloses summing means receiving the video signal and responsive to the circuit means and the timing circuitry for adding to the video signal a dynamic copy protection signal formed of position modulated AGC pulses relative to the pseudo sync pulses [figure 29 and accompanying description].

As to claim 32, Oguro discloses that the timing circuitry includes sync separating means for providing a horizontal rate (H rate) signal and a frame rate signal [column 8, lines 1-50]. Oguro discloses means responsive to the H rate signal for providing a first signal that defines a positive pulse duration of an H rate related signal [column 8, lines 1-50]. Oguro discloses multivibrator means responsive to the H rate signal for providing a second signal indicative of the location of sync pulses in a video line [column 8, lines 1-50]. Oguro discloses means responsive to the H rate and frame rate signals for providing a third signal indicative of the video lines which are to contain the copy protection signals. Oguro discloses logic means responsive to the first, second and third signals for providing inverted pseudo sync pulses on selected video lines [figure 17 and accompanying description]. Oguro discloses that the circuit means include one shot timer circuit means responsive to control voltages for providing the AGC pulses that are varying in width and in position delay [figure 30 and accompanying description]. Oguro

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discloses that the summing means include summing amplifier means receiving the video signal and responsive to the inverted pseudo sync pulses and the width and position delay varying AGC pulses, for providing the position modulated AGC pulses relative to the pseudo sync pulses, resulting in a dynamically varying copy protected video signal [figure 30 and accompanying description].

As to claim 33, Oguro discloses means for providing the first signal include an H locked oscillator [column 8, lines 1-50]. Oguro discloses means for providing the third signal include a memory means responsive to a line counter [figure 30 and accompanying description]. Oguro discloses that the one shot timer circuit means include a pair of voltage controlled one shot circuits and the summing amplifier means include first and second summing amplifiers responsive to the width and position delay varying AGC pulses and the inverted pseudo sync pulses, respectively [figure 30 and accompanying description].

As to claim 34, Oguro discloses that the circuit means generate the AGC pulses as raised back porch AGC pulses [figure 17 and accompanying description]. Oguro discloses that the circuit means dynamically position and/or width modulate the raised back porch AGC pulses over time from minimum to maximum separation and back to minimum separation, with respect to the sync/pseudo sync pulses [figure 17 and accompanying description].

As to claim 35, Oguro discloses that the copy protection signals include sync, pseudo sync, AGC and/or raised back porch AGC pulses [figure 17 and accompanying description]. Oguro discloses that the circuit means cause dynamic position, pulse width and/or gap width modulation of the pulses over time from maximum to minimum gap separation [figure 17 and accompanying description].

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**6. Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sperber U.S. Patent No. 5,661,801 as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Ishimaru U.S. Patent No. 4,933,774.**

As to claims 4 and 5, Sperber does not teach advancing the trailing edge of the sync/pseudo sync pulses relative to the leading edge of the respective AGC pulses by a time period commensurate with the further position separation. Sperber does not teach that the advancement is 1.0 to 2.5 microseconds depending upon the amount of the small position separation, and provides the further position separation of 1.5 or more microseconds.

Ishimaru teaches advancing the trailing edge of the sync/pseudo sync pulses relative to the leading edge [figure 4 and accompanying description]. Ishimaru suggests that the advancement is 1.0 to 2.5 microseconds depending upon the amount of separation [figure 4 and accompanying description]. Ishimaru suggests that the further position separation is 1.5 or more microseconds [figures 5b and 5c and accompanying description].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Sperber so that the trailing edge of the sync/pseudo sync pulses would have been advanced relative to the leading edge of the AGC

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pulses by a time period commensurate with the further position separation. The advancement would have been between 1.0 to 2.5 microseconds depending upon the amount of the small position separation. The advancement would have provided the further separation of 1.5 or more microseconds.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Sperber by the teaching of Ishimaru because the examiner asserts that this improves the S/N ratio and lowers the great tracking error.

**7. Claims 6, 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sperber U.S. Patent No. 5,661,801 as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Holcombe U.S. Patent No. 5,864,591.**

As to claims 6, 10 and 11, Sperber does not teach delaying the AGC pulses of 0.5 to 1.5 microseconds relative to respective sync/pseudo sync pulses, while advancing the trailing edge of the sync/pseudo sync pulses between 0.5 to about 1.5 microseconds relative to the delayed respective AGC pulses.

Holcombe suggests delaying the AGC pulses of 0.5 to 1.5 microseconds relative to respective sync/pseudo sync pulses, while advancing the trailing edge of the sync/pseudo sync pulses between 0.5 to about 1.5 microseconds relative to the delayed respective AGC pulses [figure 6 and accompanying description].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Sperber so that the AGC pulses would have been delayed 0.5 to 1.5 microseconds relative to respective sync/pseudo sync pulses, while advancing



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the trailing edge of the sync/pseudo sync pulses between 0.5 to about 1.5 microseconds relative to the delayed respective AGC pulses.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Sperber by the teaching of Holcombe because larger levels of feedback can be tolerated or the use of a low AGC threshold voltage level is permissible because the gain control voltage is not adversely affected by the feedback pulse from the rising edge of the output signal at D.sub.OUT [column 8, lines 23-34].

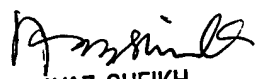
*Conclusion*

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aravind K Moorthy whose telephone number is 703-305-1373. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R Sheikh can be reached on 703-305-9648. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-1373.

Aravind K Moorthy  
September 29, 2003

  
AYAZ SHEIKH  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGICAL CENTER 2100